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TO : Department of State

FROM : LAGOS 216 May 6, 1950

REF : Consulate General's Despatch No. 200 of April 29, 1950

SUBJECT : Announced Aims and Objectives of New Africa Party

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Mr. Jaja Anucha WACHUKU, founder of the New Africa Party, has formed a branch of his political organization in Lagos at a meeting held in Lagos at which Dr. Nnamdi AZIKIWE also spoke. Mr. Wachuku announced what he termed the aims and objectives of the new party. Zik's presence at the meeting and the endorsement he gave the party appears to bear out the original belief that the new group has strong ties with the National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons. The Daily Comet, published in Kano and owned by Zik editorialized as follows about the party:

"JOIN NEW AFRICA PARTY

"The New Africa Party founded at Aba very recently aims at allying itself with all forces seeking for independence of Nigeria at the earliest possible date. The head of the Party and founder is Mr. Jaja Anucha Wachuku, M.A.,LL.B., Barrister-at-Law.

"Now that the Zikist Movement has been banned, it is hoped that the New Africa Party is going to have a lot of youths in its fold. Branches should be formed in different parts of the country. It has a definite aim and with the co-operation of the people it is bound to achieve its objective. The banning of the Zikist Movement does not prevent youths from joining any other movements in the country.

"What are our youths doing? Let them rally round the New Africa Party which has come at a most opportune time. The New Party has declared its aim. It is for all freedom loving people of this country to give it all the supports it deserves.

"The founder of the party has given the assurance that it is not going to be a nine-day wonder. 'The Party has come to stay, not to shout and die; and will entrench itself in every village and hamlet - not only in the towns. The New Party is out for a communocratic state - a government of the community for the community,' opines Jaja Wachuku."

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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At the meeting Mr. Wachuku outlined the following ultimate and immediate aims of his party:

"In its political action the New Africa Party will support all forces which lawfully and justly seek the liberation, unification, and independence of Nigeria in the shortest possible time.

"This, however, is but the first step to the ultimate objective of the party, which has as its second step the federation and unification of West Africa; which in turn is a further step to federation and unification of Black Africa; and finally the intellectual, moral, spiritual, and cultural re-union of the scattered peoples of the Negro race.

"The ultimate aim, therefore, of the New Africa Party, is Pan-Africanism - the federation spiritually, culturally, morally and politically, of the black people of Africa and peoples of the Negro race for the purpose of racial self-realisation in order to fulfil our racial destiny which is inevitable.

"The immediate practical programme of the party will be to mobilise all persons, men and women, who believe in these things; to organise them into an irresistible and indestructible force, to evangelise the people to preach the doctrine far and near in every village and hamlet.

"The New Africa Party, consistent with its faith, does not recognise any distinction as to sex, and any African and any member of the Negro race who ratifies the conditions of its membership is eligible.

"The truck pusher, the labourer, the night soil man, the lawyer, the doctor, the civil servant, the peasant, literate and illiterate, are all warmly welcome within the fold of the New Africa Party.

"The party believes in the capacity of the African to achieve whatever he puts his mind to achieve provided he has the opportunity to do so.

"In consequence of the tenets of the party, conditions of membership are such that the rights and privileges of membership may be within the reach of all adherents.

"Intending members may do so by paying enrolment fee of two shillings and sixpence and a monthly subscription of sixpence, or six shillings a year, to the secretary of the

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party, care African Continental Bank, Aba."

For the Consul General:

Harris H. Williams
American Vice Consul

Copy to American Embassy, London.

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